Europe and the Beginnings of the Great United States.

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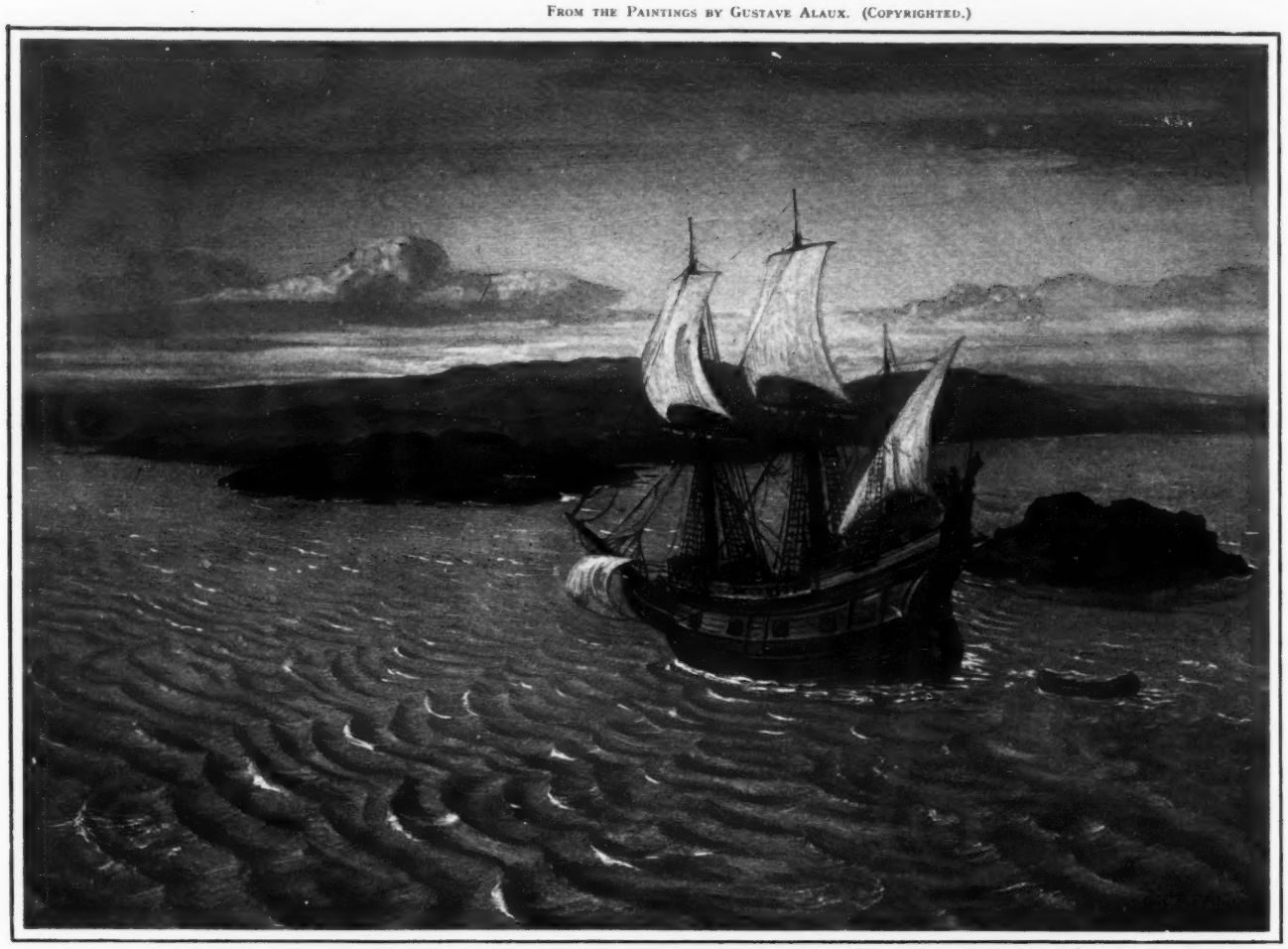

OFF THE BARREN COAST WHERE NOW STANDS THE GREATEST CITY OF AMERICA: HENRY HUDSON IN HIS LITTLE SHIP, THE "HALF MOON," PASSING THE FUTURE SITE OF NEW YORK DURING A VOYAGE FOR THE DUTCH EAST INDIA COMPANY IN 1609.

THE END OF THE GREAT NAVIGATOR WHO GAVE HIS NAME TO HUDSON BAY AND THE HUDSON RIVER: HENRY HUDSON, WITH HIS SON AND SEVEN OTHERS, CAST ADRIFT IN THE ARCTIC BY MUTINEERS ABOARD HIS SHIP, THE "DISCOVERY," IN 1611, NEVER TO BE HEARD OF AGAIN.

After a first voyage in search of a north-east passage to China, Henry Hudson again set sail in 1609 for the Dutch East India Company in a small vessel called the "Half Moon," and this time steered towards the north-west. He sailed along the north-east coast of North America, and on September 3 entered the bay where now stands New York. Its site was then only a rocky desert, and, still seeking a westward passage, he sailed 150 miles up the river which to-day bears his name.

In 1610 Hudson left London on his third and last voyage in a little ship of 55 tons called the "Discovery." He still hoped to find a north-west passage to China. He discovered the straits and bay named after him, but his crew mutinied, and a man called Green, whom Hudson had taken on board out of affection, incited the mutineers to abandon Hudson, with his son John and seven other men, in a little boat, and to return to England. This was done on June 26, 1611.

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AN ARRIVAL AT NEW YORK (THEN KNOWN AS NEW AMSTERDAM) IN THE MID-SEVENTEENTH CENTURY: A PRECURSOR OF THE ATLANTIC LINER OFF THE LITTLE PORT THAT BECAME A GREAT CITY.

Settlement on the site of New York was begun by the Dutch West India Company in 1624, and in 1650 the town they founded, named New Amsterdam, contained about a thousand inhabitants. In 1664 it was captured by the British and was granted by Charles II. to his brother the Duke of York (afterwards James II.), from whom it received its new name. The town was retaken by the Dutch in 1673, but the next year was again transferred to the British, who held it until the revolution. Our picture shows the arrival of a Dutch ship at New Amsterdam in the middle of the seventeenth century. The vessel carries the flag of the Dutch West India Company at her mast-head, and at the stern that of Amsterdam, while the arms of that city are carved on the taffrail. The artist based his reconstruction of the buildings at New Amsterdam, in the background of the picture, on Dutch documents of the year 1671.

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THE SAILING OF THE "MAYFLOWER": THE PILGRIM FATHERS LEAVING PLYMOUTH ON SEPTEMBER 6, 1620.

The Pilgrim Fathers, who played so important a part in the foundation of the United States, belonged to a body of English Nonconformists who had taken refuge in Holland, to escape religious persecution, and were members of John Robinson's church at Leyden. They decided to establish a colony in North America, and in July 1620 they left Delftshaven in two small ships, the "Mayflower" and the "Speedwell," which took them to Southampton and then to Plymouth. There the "Speedwell" was pronounced unseaworthy. On September 6 in that year the "Mayflower" sailed from Plymouth with a party of 74 men and 28 women, who landed in Massachusetts on December 21, 1620, and founded the Plymouth settlement. Nine years later another body of religious reformers from England, known as the "Puritans," founded the Massachusetts Bay colony, in 1629-30. The two colonies were united under the name of Massachusetts in 1691.

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